NWS Form E-5 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE **MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS**	**HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA:** **Pocatello, Idaho**
	REPORT FOR: **MONTH: January YEAR: 2005**
TO: Hydrologic Operations Division, W/OH2 National Weather Service National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Silver Spring, Maryland 20910	**SIGNATURE** Sherrie Hebert: (In Charge of Hydrologic Service Area)
	DATE February 11, 2005
When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924).	

X **An X in this box indicates that no flooding has occurred for the month within this hydrologic service area.**

Early January precipitation was much above normal in most of Eastern Idaho with precipitation falling nearly every day through the middle of the month, bringing with it hopes of an end to a five-year-plus drought. However, the abundance ended with little to no precipitation the remainder of the month, diminishing drought-recovery hopes as average precipitation totals again fell below normal by month's end.

Other Hydrologic Interests

Precipitation

January precipitation for the Pocatello HSA was 121.3% of normal for 38 of 42 reporting stations with climate data, according to Western Region Climate Center data. The table below shows 22 of the reporting stations receiving 100% or greater than normal precipitation. Bear Lake (Lifton Pumping Station) broke the January monthly station total precipitation record receiving 2.86 inches, surpassing the 1997 record of 2.97 inches.

Station Name	Precip (inches)	% Normal
Lifton Pumping Station	2.86	391.8
Preston	3.13	242.6
Oakley	1.51	196.1
Malta Aviation	1.36	188.9
Arco Airport	1.68	186.7
Soda Springs	2.08	185.7
Grace	1.80	150.0
Massacre Rocks	1.47	138.7
Tetonia	2.21	133.9
Hamer	0.76	133.3
Aberdeen	0.96	133.3

Station Name	Precip (inches)	% Normal
American Falls 3 NW	1.38	131.4
Pocatello WFO	1.41	123.7
Blackfoot FD	1.07	116.3
Ketchum Ranger Station	2.47	116.0
Malad Airport	1.79	112.6
Fort Hall 1 NE	1.02	112.1
McCammon	2.04	112.1
Minidoka Dam	1.14	111.8
Burley 2 S	1.28	108.5
Idaho Falls 2 ESE	1.06	102.9
Mackay Ranger Station	0.78	100.0

The following additional January daily precipitation records were set in Eastern Idaho.

Idaho Falls: 0.20 inches of precip on January 1, breaks old record of 0.12 inches set in 1987.

Pocatello: 0.76 inches of precip on January 8, breaks old record of 0.36 inches set in 1942. 8.3 inches of snowfall on January 8 breaks old record of 3.8 inches in 1957 AND breaks one-day snowfall record for the month of January, which was 7.8 inches set on January 17, 1950.

Those stations receiving less than 50% of normal include Stanley at 45.78%, Chilly Barton Flats at 40.5%, Challis at 36.2% and Driggs at 31.9% of normal.

Reservoirs

The Upper Snake River reservoir system is at 42% of capacity[1], up 7% from January 11, 2005.

Reservoir	% Capacity December 31[2]	% Capacity January 31[3]	Percent Change	% of Average[3]	% of Last Year[3]
American Falls	45	59	14	87	122
Bear Lake	n/a	9	n/a	13	87
Blackfoot	8	10	2	15	0
Henry's Lake	71	73	2	79	97
Island Park	52	59	7	78	105
Little Wood	34	43	9	80	111
Mackay	35	44	9	71	113
Magic	10	12	2	27	112
Oakley	13	16	3	43	139
Palisades	35	41	6	55	124
Ririe	38	40	2	89	111
Lake Walcott	19[4]	18[5]	1	n/a	n/a

Source: (1) US Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), February 10, 2005; (2) NRCS, December 31, 2004; (3) NRCS, January 31, 2005; (4) BOR, December 14, 2004; (5) BOR, January 10, 2005.

Drought

Eastern Idaho opened the 2005 calendar year entirely in the D3, "Extreme" and D4, "Exceptional" categories on the US Drought Monitor. Low soil moisture, low SWSI values and above-normal temperature and below-normal precipitation outlooks leave little to no room for relief in the near future.

Hydrologic Product Summary

No hydrologic products were issued in January.

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